

## FROM THE EDITOR

Happy New Year! It looks like CATS is starting out on the right foot. As I write this, the copy that I've recieved is lying on the floor beside me. It looks like there are ever more contributors with more to say, Keep it up! CATS Newsletter is looking pretty good these days. Several callers have commented on it. Amid all the continuing pleas for new material (we still need that), we should realize that we are one of the best Timex newsletters that are published. The broad support that has been generated has created a newsletter that reflects the wide areas of expertise of the members. Moral? KEEP IT UP!

I really can't say how much I appreciated the help I've gotten on this edition. We 've been trying to speed things up to clear room for Christmas, and succeeded - but only because of the cooperation of a lot of people: see the list below. I attended two parties last night; a standard office party, with lots of folks I didn't know standing around, and the newsletter paste-up party. The refreshments were spartan (all the coffee or icewater you wanted), but the paste-up party was the one that Ill remember. We passed around some info, got some new ideas, and created most of what you're looking at right now. Two thoughts arise from this. First, there is a lot of room for other special interest groups to do the same thing - see Steve Johnson's note in this issue. Second, how about a pot-luck dinner for the club? I suggested having all the recipies printed out on a T/S 2040, but was hooted down. Let me know if you have a place we could use for such an affair.
 DUBS TIME

When you all become heads of major computer corporations, don't forget that you must have paid your dues. In this case, the tariff is quite reasonable: $\$ 12.00$, reduced to $\$ 6.00$ if you joined after July las recorded in our archives). Either type of member will then be paid up through next December.

## GOINGS AND COMINGS

A good West Coast newsletter, 2-West, is stopping as of January - the real reasons are unknown, but I believe that if they had the support we are enjoying, they would still be with us.

A new publication for Timex owners has come out - T-S Horizons. I've seen two issues and they look very good. Subscriptions are $\$ 12.00 / 12$ issues, to T-S Horizons, 2002 Summit St.,Portsmouth, OH 45662. Efforts like this deserve our support.


## PROGRAMMING TINTS \& HIPS

While I would be the last to point out another's error, Syntax committed a previous sin in their May, '83 issue. In their version of a banner program, they named a variable LEN, identically spelled to the token LEN. This must not be dons! It's very confusing to the redder (or de-bugger). In some computers such words are called prohibited words; and there's good reason for the prohibition.

If you're programming in German, remember to make your programs Benützerfreundlichkeit.

## 

SUBMISSIONS for this newsletter are eagerly solicited. The primary function of this newsletter is to serve as a method of communication between members: thus, when selecting material for each issue, first priority will be given to member's submissions. Publication of material does not transfer rights from the author; in fact, it may establish priority.

Submissions may be reviews, articles on applications, programming techniques, hardware, or anything else you can imagine. Pertinent articles from other publications will also be considered.

I would prefer material to be typed, single spaced, in $3 \%^{\prime \prime}$ columns - but don't break your back: the Xerox dosen't really care.

| NEWSLETTER TEAM |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Ned Reeler | Sarah Fisher |
| Carsie Bozeman | Jules Gesang |
| Mike L. Cohen | Gyuri Grell |
| John Conger | Mihaly Grell |
| Audry Curnutt | Steve Johnson |
| Bob Curnutt | Walt Sillars |
| Hank Dickson | J.M. Vallin |
| Kadi Durholz | Stew Vance |
| Mary Feldman | Rick White |
| Mark. Fisher |  |

1984 MEETING and NEWSLETTER DEADIINE


## a HESSAGE FROH THE FRESIDENT

## ON THE NENELETTEE

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So far, only 25 questiomafres have been returned. Not overyone responded to all the questions, so the totals do not add up:

Equipment: TX-80, 1; TX-81,3; T/S 1000, 27, T/S 1500,$1 ; 16 \mathrm{~K}$ RAK, $24 ; 64 \mathrm{~K} \mathrm{RAM,3;} 2040$ printers,10; other type printer, $4 ;$ modems 1 ; large keyboard, 10 ; memotech assenbler, 1; VIC-20, 1.

Background: (beginner's)level 1, 1; level2 6 ; level 3,6 ; level 4,10 ; level 5,2 .
reason for joining To learn BASIC, 133 to learn about machine code, 15 ; to meet others, 19; to learn about new equipment, 19; to learn about new programs, 17; to learn to use comnercial programs, 12.

What kind of club is wanted: Bisgest, $1 ;$ most helpful, 21; friendliest; 10; other, 0.

Meeting changes: Parfect, 5; More product demos.g4; More program demos., 6; More beginner info., 8 ; More advanced info., 3; Separate interest groups, 6; Sore time to talk to those around me, 4 ; More tutorials, 9; Other, 4 .

Newsletter changes: Perfect; 4; More general information, 3; More program reviews, $3 ;$ more book reviews, 0 ; More hardware re views, 3; More tuborials, 11; Kore news from other clubs, 1; More advertizing, 1; frogram mods., 1.

HOW WILL YCU FBIP: DO nothing, 5s Help on committees if called, 11; Write for newsia Ietter, 4 ; Volunteer for committees, 2 ; Coordinate committees, 1 ; Nobody offered to start a committee.

SKILL LEVEL COMPARISON

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| 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 6 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 7 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 8 |  |  | 2 |
| 9 |  |  |  |

INTEREST IN SPECIFIC COIMITTTES: B ASIC education, 6; Machine code education, 5; Newsletter, 2; Library, 2; Interclub communication,3; Newsletter advertizing, 1; Publisity, 2; Meeting planning, 2; Membership, 2; Contests, 1; Telecommuicatic tion, 1.


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## Notes From The Librarian

Please note following, the phone number listed for Michael N. Cohen in the Program Library is wrong. The above program will list his phone number, and show you one way to make a lable. Please excuse th error.


The GEMINI $10 \times$ Frinter and MEMOTEXT Word Processing:

At recently advertised prices of $\mathbf{2 6 9}$. and $\mathbf{\$ 2 7 5}$., the Star Geaini 10X Printer offers everything that Prouriter and Epson 80 do at $\$ 100$. and $\$ 200$. (respectively) less.
It can print coapressed type of 17 characters per inch, which you are reading, plus Elite of 12 per inch, plus Fica at 10 per inch, plus the double-wide, and also Italics which prowriter cannot do. And even sixtpe sizes on one lide.
It can print symbols and punctuation that are not on the TS keyboard: \& \% ! (e) " and many other
symbols such as: $2-4-0-$ -
special letters used in various languages, like German: 0 , and Greek: $\psi$. It can ephasize and also do a double-strik.
For clarity's sake, it can backspace and place a / over an or 0 and make a clear zero: or 0.

Along with the printer, which seems to do everything advertised, I also got the MEMOTEXT word processor. While the docmentation does leave something to be desired, I was able to concoct a reasonably decent business letter the first day and a much better one the second day.
With Mark Fisher's help, I learned to make the line justification process work when I inserted non-standard punctuation. It was in the instructions all the time, but I missed them the first time around. I have seen much worse documentation, though.
My impression after a month's learning experience is that the MEMOTEXT and GEMINI : 10 X combination is pretty terrific. It is very useful for small business as well as personal writing and computing. And I have a new respect for the TS membrane keyboard. I find I can type quite fast (MEMOTEXT is as fast as anyone can type) and corrections are so easy, I don't worry about mistakes. Now, if I could only spell!

MEMOTEXT provides easy editing of text, inserting new material, correcting mistakes, and deleting characters or lines. Whole paragraphs or chapters may be moved as a block to new locations. Text can be searched rapidly by character strings for editing or updating.
Flexable controls for formatting of letters, reports and forms is provided. An extensive list of commands gives pretty complete control of both the word processor and the printer, which incidently comes with a 282 page manual!
An important feature for my business is the Data Management Program that is integrated into MEMOTEXT. It really is two programs in one. You can set up an extensive list of names, addresses, phone numbers, etc.- six lines of 32 characters each - in which I cram substantial info on subcontracters. I use the data files to make a phone list including key names as well as to address letters and envlopes, specially useful for form letters. I run off twenty notices to subs., with envelopes, at the rate of one a minute from a format in memory and on tape.
My only other word processing experience has been on the TRS 80 III, writing the VU-CALC Handbook with Scripsit. I truly believe my equipment is about equal in output and ease of operation. Considering that my investment is $10 \%$ that of my TRS friend's, I think that says a lot for the TS 1000 and my low cost but full sized printer. I now really do expect to finish rewriting the VU-CALC Handbook on my own equipment very soon. As a final word, my advice for those intending to get into word processing with a full sized printer, buy from the lowest priced source. Ignore stores that sell at $\$ 30$. to $\$ 50$. more on the promise to give instruction and "support". It just is not there. Your best bet to get started, if you need help, is the Users Group. With people like Mark, or even beginners like me, available to demonstrate or advise by phone, you can get going with a minimum of cost and frustration and an optimum level of productivity and satisfaction. I did.
John Conger, 7738384 or 6545751

## WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR YOUR TIMEX SINCLAIR?

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- Games
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- Practical Advice

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[8

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## SYNTAX Harvard, MA 01451 RD 2 Box 457,



For TS 1000/1500, ZX81


GOTOs and GOSUBs, but there aren't as many of them.
ON TO EASIC

```
9990~LET X=16509
9 9 9 1 ~ L E T ~ N = 1 0
9992 IF PEEK X*256+PEEK (X+1) >=9
000 THEN STOP
9993 POKE X,INT (N/256)
9994 POKE X+1,N-256*INT (N/256)
9 9 9 5 ~ L E T ~ N = N + 1 0
9996 LET X=X+4+PEEK (X+2)+256*PE
E (X+3)
9997 GOTO 9992
```


## AND BEYOND

It's possible to include the GOTOs and GOSUBs as well, but it requires a lot of programming. Here's what has to be done. 1) The program file must be scanned, and a table built up, of the locations of GOTOs and GOSUBs, along with the line numbers they refer to.
2) A second pass through the program is made, the old numbers are checked against the numbers in the table: if they match, the new number is entered in its place: and the line numbers are changed.
3) The program file is scanned a third time, and each GOTO and GOSUB is given its new number reference.
THE PERILS OF PROGRAM DE VELOPMENT
I have finished the first section of this expanded program. In that process, I thought of some potential bugs. To wit; computed GOTOs (GOTO $10 * X$ would not be correctly modified. Computed GOTOs are not used very often, and I wasn't worried about leaving that out. The binary representation would also hve to be changed; again, not a real problem, just another subroutine. A bigger problem is that the size of the program varies with the number of digits in the line number. If the original read GOTO 20, and the revised version had to read GOTO 300 , the program file would have to be lengthened by one byte. I can't think of any way around that one in BASIC; and that's the end of the project.

## Mark Fisher

As Creative Computing says, "the reason we don't have an errata column is because we don't make mistakes." Boggler, in the Dec. issue, contains some graphics DATA statements that were very hard to interperet. They weren't wrong, but they could have been clearer.

To get line 920, TYpe: (underline = GRAPHICS SHIFT,b=space)
9020 LET Q $\$=$ "bbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbb bbbb, bbbbbbbbBOGGLERbbbbbbb, ㅂ, bb bbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbb, bbbbb $66 b 6 b$ 66bbb66bbbbb, b, bbb8bTYb8bTYb8bTY b5bbb, bbb8bYTb8bYTb8bYTb5bbb," JUST GOT AFFORDABLE. for more information:


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through the following questions
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    E. Eusiness use (qEineral)
    G. Morem communications
    D: Ham communicetigms
    E. Contro11ing appliances
    F. Romotise develspment
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## CALCULATING BOND YIELDE

One of the pleasures of hacling at a T/S 1000 is the luxury of saving a lot of keystrokes on your calculator. I recently wrote this to examint the current interest yield of a bond or other interest-bearing investment which can be purchased at margin. A $16 \%$ cupon bond can yield a net return of $19.05 \%$ return at the right price and bought at margin interest paid.

The variable NETR of the program is the return after deducting margin interest. Bonds can be bought for 30\% margin but I prefer 35\% for saftey. current margin interest is around $12.75 \%$. (You can change margin and margin interest by making changes in lines 4 and 5. .

You can do your own income tex calculations after this. A subroutine can calculate the after-tax net.

A listing format permits comparisons between investments under consideration.

Please don't complain of making 19\% on 16\% investment. This is leverage. Interest is paid on face value, and you pay interest on the amount you borrowed.

Stew Vance

BUNE YTELD RT MFREIN. 35 INT. 1275


## program layout

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continued from p. 9
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Some of the best things in life are free! With my T/S1000 anid modem, local computer bulletin board systems are just thatfreedl As of this time I've accessed 5 boards in the Greater Baltimore local call-' ing area without accruing any telephone charges. Most boards emphasize either a flexibIe message posting service or upload/ domioad of public domain software (usually on an "exchange" basis). Some are operated by computer stores, in a non-commercial manner, during non-store hours while others are managed system operators (SYSOP's) from their homes and are "up" 24 hours daily.

Locating a phone number for just cne local bulletin board always leads to others through message system announcements (or; ask me). No matter what type of host computer the SYSOP uses (TRS-80, Apple etc.) all systems are accessible from any computer, including the $T / S 1000$ with a modem and terminal software like Byte-Back's MD-2. Simply load the software, dial the number, and at the computer tone flip on the modem, hang up, hit the Enter key and presto user-friendly prompts roll across the screen. Type responses to a question or two and logon to a menls.and instructions for use occurs.

Fron this point, depending on the board offerings, prograts can be downloaded for adaptation, games played, software reviews, jokes, news, sales \& want ads read, topics for discussion commented upon, and messages sent or scanned. Figure 1 is an example of a message to me from the SYSOP of the Italian Connection Bulletin Board in Pikesville (Li86-7633). A pritvate message (E-Maiv) is usually avaisable, and if the SYSO: is home, one-to-one CHAT is great fun.

Until a microdrive is available for the Timex, we can't easily use one for a fullfledged bulletin board system, but perhaps with Timex's to-be-rcleased autoanswer modem we'll be able to at least "talk" to other Timèx conrunicators.

Also, utilizing another "smart" featire of Byter-Back's MD-2 modem \& software, I've downloaded material from Compuserve into my T/S1000 with 16 k of memory; then I saved it on cassette tape. Reloading has been totaliy reliable and a result is shown as Figure 2. Notice that each screen is saved as a BAS IC propran REM staterient, with not too unsiphtly craphic block characters. Fifteen screens at a time inay be saved perman-
ently onto cassette tape in this fashion (or 60 with $61 / \mathrm{K}$ of memory). Since the Byte-Back Co. may be able to adapt its hardware and software to the T/S2068, its peripherals and more standard BASIC, I'm looking forward to a future of downloading more usable software from both Compuserve and the local bulletin boards.

Figure 1.


Figure 2.

PAGE IDS-410

* TYPEE OF Miturl funds *

1 INTRODUCTION
2 BOND FUNDS
3 INCOME EQUITY FUNDS
4 GROWTH ESUITY FUNES
5 MONEY MARKET FUNES
LAST MENU FREE, KEY EIGIT
OR M FUR FREUIOUS MENU.

comfuserve
PAGE IDS-423

INTRQDUETION

PROGRAM MERGING FOR FREE
Carsie Eozeman
There are numerous advertisements for programs and devices to merge programs in the $T / S$ and oven tho I, like Bernio, hate to pass up a bargain, I hate even more paying someone else to do something I can just as well do myself. After weeks of moving code back and forth I understood why I got such interesting displays (pokeing into D-FILE) and why the system crashed on occasion (poking into VARS) but. I could not come up with an idea of how to move them out of the way until Mark suggested REN statements.

Lines 9900 thru 9912 move the program already in the program file to another location much higher in memory and gives you the numbers you will need to protect it from the second LOAD and to move it back down when you are ready to merge the two.

If you don't have a printer, change the LPRINTs in 9910 and 9911 to PRINTs and have a pencil handy to jot down the resulta because you will need to lower RAMTOP to the values given for 16300 \& 16389, insert the value of "A" in ine 7117 of the MERGE routine and Bytes will come in handy, even invaluable if jou want to avoid a crash. Here is the step by step procedure;

1. Inter lines 9900 thru 9912 exactly as they appear.
2. Enter GOTO 9900.
3. POKE 16388, (the value given).
4. POnE 16389, (the value given).
5. Press NEW then ENTER.
6. LOAD "the new program".
7. Enter lines 7110 thru 7123.
8. Dolete all spaces and character's inside the parenthesis following the $=81 \mathrm{gn}$ in 7112 and replace with the line no. of your first REM statement (it should follow line 7123).
9. Insert the value of "A" in line 7117 after removing the parenthesis and all spaces and characters inside.
10. Enter PRINT PEEK 16390.250\% PEEK 16397-16509 (note the result).
Now you enter enough REM statements to reserve the space the first program will occupy when it is peeked back down. This will correspond to the value given for Bytes in step 2.

You can make a REM statement as long as you want but remember that the screen will hold only 704 characters so in order not to overload my ability to keep track I use a 320 byte line. That comes out as 2 bytes for the line no., 2 bytes for the line length, 1 byte for the REM character, 1 byte for the end of line (118) character and 314 dots, Xs or whatever.

Now you cen use the EDIT and DELETE functions to recreate this line to your heart's content or at least get an integer number of the ilnes to match the bytes of the first program plus one more ine to picx up the remainder. In other words, if your first program occupies 3200 bytes then you need 10 innes of 320 bytes. But if it is 3306 bytes long then you need 10 lines of 320 bytes plus an eleventh with 100 characters.

Liberal use of the lothinstruction is recormended to make sure Jou have the exact no. of bytes needed and not one more or less. When the numbers come up right, enter GOTO 7110 and cross everything available.


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g900 REM MELOCATE
OQ1 LET DF=FEEK 1E396+EESTFEE
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6-E ENW

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CATS is a non－profit special interest organization dedicated to seruing the interests of those who own，use，or are interested in learning more about the Timex／Sinclair family of personal computers．

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